

## MINUTES

Chatham Township Environmental Commission

Tuesday June 4, 2013, 7:15 PM at the Township Municipal Building.

**CTEC'S PURPOSE:** To undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources and air quality, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT** -- The meeting schedule for 2013 and January 2014 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building and on the Chatham Township website at [www.chathamtownship.org](http://www.chathamtownship.org). The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings, join the discussions and participate in projects.

### CTEC AND GREEN TEAM MEETING DATES FOR 2013 AND JANUARY 2014

Every first Tuesday February through December 2013 and the second Tuesday in January 2014.

February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July NO MEETING, August 6, September 3, October 1, November 5, December 3 in 2013 and January 14 in 2014.

### ROLL CALL

Attending were Kathy Abbott, Frank Esposito, Steve Carroll, Dot Stillinger, Shankar Krishnan, Subashree & Uday Rajagopal, Marilyn Murray, Lou Caprioglio, Matt & Annabelle Palmer, Megan Schaaf, Mike Kelly

### SUSTAINABLE JERSEY BRONZE CERTIFICATION AWARDED TO CHATHAM TOWNSHIP CONGRATULATIONS TO STEVE CARROLL!!!!

### APPROVED GREEN TEAM AND CTEC MINUTES OF MAY 7, 2013

### THANKS TO SUBASHREE FOR HER YEARS OF SERVICE AND WELCOME TO MARILYN AS OUR NEWEST CTEC MEMBER

- Subashree will continue as a member of the CTEC advisory council. Any interested resident is invited to join this council.

### GREEN TEAM MEETING

- Considering items for next round of Sustainable Jersey. Looking towards 2016. Would be good to work ahead. Several items are valid in perpetuity. Need NRI to be adopted by Planning Board as part of the Master Plan. Should check if municipal land use law allows an NRI to be adopted into the Master Plan. Most towns have done so.
- Marilyn is working toward CTEC having a table at Fishawack. Volunteers needed to help out and/or attend. Several commissioners volunteered. A fair number of Township residents attend events like this. Recycling will be promoted, especially the single-stream system now in effect. The goal is to increase recycling in Chatham Township.

### RECYCLE HARDCOVER BOOKS

Several requests have been received for information about recycling hardcover books. F. Esposito mentioned "New Legacy Books" as a possible vendor. They sell, donate and shred used books. It is a Morris county company which works in 12 towns. They put a bin in town's recycling center, pay town \$40 per filled bin, bin is 3 1/2 x 3 1/2 feet. Good spots would be Tanglewood or municipal building. Penny Jones of the MUA suggested this company. Frank will get more information. There would have to be a designated monitor to keep an eye on the bin. It was moved, seconded and voted with all in favor to pursue this project.

### APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW

**PENDING.** Bhee properties, Block 61, Lot 10, 697 Fairmount Ave. Application to Planning Board to subdivide an acre property into two 1/2-acre lots in the R-3 (1/2-acre) zone. Fifty-foot drop from Sunset Drive to Fairmount Ave. Variances requested for deviations from required slope disturbances. Soil is loose and depth to bedrock is small so much potential for erosion and stormwater runoff. The next Bhee hearing has been rescheduled for July 15 with a site visit on July 13.

**PENDING.** 23 Loantaka Lane South, Block 139, lot 17. Application by Home Help New Jersey, LLC to NJDEP for renewal of wetland disturbance permit. CTEC sent letters to NJDEP and others noting that the proposed required wetland compensation area is not on property owned by the applicant but is on land owned by the Morris County Park Commission.

Morris County Planning Board replied with a letter stating that they were aware of the situation and were working with the applicant.

PENDING. 509 Shunpike Rd. Block 128, lot 14. Application to Planning Board to subdivide the 1-acre property into 2 1/2-acre lots. R-3 (1/2 acre residential) zone. Property is near Long Hill Chapel. Wetlands begin at rear property line. When the application comes up before the Planning Board CTEC will send memo to Planning Board suggesting asking applicant to obtain an LOI.

PENDING. Rolling Knolls Superfund site at the end of Britten Road. No new information. It was specifically excluded from the market garden ordinance.

## REPORTS

Planning Board report. L. Caprioglio, Planning Board liaison.

- Planning Board approved changing a lot line on Candace Lane. It will affect the percentage of steep slopes and amount of useable lot area on each new lot. 29 Candace Lane. Block: 38, Lot: 31.
- Master Plan is ready to be put on Township website.
- Ace Hardware is getting ready to occupy the old Drug Fair building.
- Green checklist is being worked on by S. Rajagopal, draft will be circulated to CTEC for comment.

Township Committee report. K. Abbott, Township Committee liaison.

- Demolition issues. Neighbors are being affected by dust from demolitions. Greg Impink, zoning officer and building inspector, has a sheet for builders listing required inspections for demolitions. Might be a good idea to turn this inspection list into an ordinance. ANJEC has little information on demolitions. The main need is to control dust, one way to do that is by spraying the area with water. Little or no hazard from asbestos, if any is there at all it is not friable so is not inhaled during removal process.
- CTEC is urging the Township Committee to require subdivision and site plans to be submitted in pdf format. If that happens CTEC should be on the list to receive all pdf plans and documents. Currently the township requires applicants to submit 25 paper copies of every sheet and document, which amounts to a large stack of paper and is costly for the applicant.
- Woodland Park is being looked at by Chatham Borough for a joint community garden.

Open Space Committee report. S. Krishnan and M. Schaaf, Open Space Committee liaisons.

- Very successful tree planting last month on the Averett property.

Communications Committee report. F. Esposito, Chair.

- Archive page on EC website is an excellent resource, serves as backup for important files. Township Committee is beginning to move on updating the Township website, which needs to be refreshed.

Recycling Committee report. F. Esposito, Chair.

- Single stream recycling needs to be promoted more.

Community Education and Outreach Committee report. F. Esposito, Chair.

- CTEC receives several e-mails every day. F. Esposito responds and archives the messages.
- Green Fair Committee has met to organize, more meetings will follow. Several CTEC members expressed an interest in participating in some way.
- Sapling Sale sold all but 50 trees out of the 400 purchased. Waiting for final count from Joe Dunn, head of the Morris County Soil Conservation District. 25 trees were planted on the Averett property (along with 25 seedlings obtained independently by the Open Space Committee) so the Township still has 25 trees for anyone interested to buy.

## NOTES AND DISCUSSION

- Remediation of the clearcutting at 406 Green Village Road has been completed. Property is for sale.
- Conservation easement on 23 Susan Drive was accepted by the Township.
- Greeve conservation easement needs to be accepted and recorded. Planning Board final subdivision approval requiring a conservation easement was granted on 3-21-96.
- Waiting for the report card from Joe Dunn of the Morris County Soil Conservation District ([www.mcsd.org/](http://www.mcsd.org/)) on how Chatham Township is doing on its soil and sediment erosion control.
- Urge Township Committee or Planning Board resolution requiring applicants to submit site plans, stormwater plans, Environmental Impact Statements, engineer reports and other documents in pdf form.

- PSE&G's power line upgrade is near completion. Let's watch to see how they revegetate. When will the boardwalk be removed and the wetlands restored?
- Note alternatives being proposed for Comprehensive Conservation Plan for Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. The word on the street is that Option B is most favored. Read the Plan at <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/planning/Great%20Swamp/ccphome.html>.

#### RECENT LETTERS SENT

- April 2013. Letters concerning application to NJDEP for extension of Transition Area Waiver and General Permit by Home Help New Jersey, LLC sent to NJDEP, Morris County Planning Board, Morris County Park Commission.
- March 2013. Letter to three new owners of properties with conservation easements mentioning the existence of a conservation easement on part of their property.
- January 2013. Letter to NJDEP urging good vegetation management in power line rights-of-way, including the North Central Reliability Project, and revegetation with native species.

#### EVENTS

- June 22, 2013, Saturday. Morris County electronics and hazardous waste recycling. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Morris County Public Safety Training Academy, 500 West Hanover Ave, Parsippany NJ 07054. QUESTIONS? Call (973) 631-5109, [www.MCMUA.com](http://www.MCMUA.com).
- September 14, 2013, Saturday. Morris County electronics and hazardous waste recycling. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Morris County Public Safety Training Academy, 500 West Hanover Ave, Parsippany NJ 07054. QUESTIONS? Call (973) 631-5109, [www.MCMUA.com](http://www.MCMUA.com).

#### MAIL RECEIVED

- Minutes of meetings of Chatham Borough and Long Hill Environmental Commissions.
- CTEC financial report for May.
- Notices and flyers.

ADJOURNED AT 9 PM.